

Wimmera Volunteers has granted funds for a Laharum Wartook 'Welcome Pack' for new residents! This is a great opportunity for local businesses and groups to include their details.

Take care over Christmas and enjoy the festivities.

*Liz Hopkins*

**BRIMPAEN CHRISTMAS TREE**

Friday December 9, 6.30pm

Brimpaen Hall

Please bring salad and sweet to share  
Cold meat provided - BYO drinks  
Concert and Carols to follow and visit from Santa



\$10 per family; \$5 single  
Gifts up to \$10; door raffle

Contact Rachel Dunn on 5383 9299 for any details



Under 12 boys Laharum Tennis team – Back: Reuben Launder & Cameron Sykes. Front: Harrison Combe and Will Griffiths

**LAHARUM PRIMARY SCHOOL  
CHRISTMAS CONCERT**



'Tis the Season to be Jolly

**THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

Venue: **Laharum Primary School**

- 5.30-6pm Delicious evening meal -  
Spit Roast Roll - \$5; Sausage in bread - \$2  
Waffle Cone Ice-creams - \$3  
Juice box/soft drink - \$1
- 6.15pm Concert begins including:  
Student work display including an ICT presentation of our Community Learning Days activities  
Laharum Pre-School performance  
P-6 LOTE performance



**Laharum Cook Book will be available for purchase throughout the night!!**

Venue: **Laharum Hall**

- 7.15pm Year 6 Graduation  
P-2 performance  
Year 3-4 performance  
Year 5-6 performance  
Whole school performance



We look forward to seeing everyone for a wonderful evening!

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**



**WONWONDAH CHRISTMAS TREE**

**Saturday December 10, 6pm**  
**Wonwondah Hall**

\$15 family - 2 adults with primary aged  
\$10 - 1 adult with primary aged; \$5 per adult

BBQ meat, bread, fruit salad & ice cream, cordial, tea & coffee supplied  
Please bring salad to share. BYO drinks

**Raffle - Carols**  
Visit from Santa around 9pm (\$10 gift limit)


'Under the Big Top' Ararat Theatre Company



Laharum students waiting to serve at the Long Lunch on October 28

## Laharum Landcare Group



Bruce McInnes was re-elected as Chairman at the AGM held on October 27. This is expected to be a busy year for this group of dedicated environmentalists with a number of grants awaited to fund local projects.

Our next Landcare meeting will be held on **Wednesday December 14** at Laharum Hall commencing the earlier time of 6pm. This will be followed by a celebratory year-end break-up BBQ. We will supply meat and bread. Please bring salad and drinks.

**Rob Lucas**

## Laharum Tennis Club



It's good to see numbers turning up for tennis training on Wednesday nights. Juniors are performing well and Seniors could do better! Anyone interested in joining the Tennis Club on a wine tour of Coonawarra in February 2012 (on a Sunday to be decided), please ring me on 0429 838230 or add your name to the list at Laharum Clubrooms.

Tennis and Cricket Christmas wind up will be held on **Saturday December 17** from 6pm at Cameron Oval. Everybody is welcome - Santa will be visiting!  
**Gary Staehr**, President

## WARTOOK ARTIST STUDIO

Great range of handmade gifts for Christmas

**PRE-CHRISTMAS TRADING HOURS**

Thursday & Friday 10am-4pm

Saturday & Sunday 10am-5pm

Closed Monday to Wednesday

Other times by appointment

**Closing Sunday December 18, 5pm**

**Reopening Monday December 26, 11am**

School holiday trading 10am-5pm

Tuesday-Sunday

## Mobile Library



The last Mobile Library for this year will visit Laharum on **Wednesday December 21**. We will be back again next January during the school holidays.

A reminder to school students to return their books etc by the end of term.

Membership is free and new members always welcome. The Mobile Library carries 3,000 items including books and DVDs.

Have a merry and safe Christmas.

**Bryan Rohde**

## AUSTRALIA DAY BREAKFAST



**Thursday January 26, 8am 2012**  
**Brimpaen Hall**

Guest speaker  
Flag raising ceremony

All in the district welcome  
Enquiries Coral on 5383 9204

## Brimpaen Craft Group



**Jill Sinclair**

**Tuesday February 7, 2012 10am-2.30pm** at  
Brimpaen Hall – organise the syllabus for the year.



## Local Vocals

Laharum Hall

**Leader – Merryn Eagle**

**THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16, 7.30PM 2012**

Minimal charge

**Singing ability not necessary**

**Come along and enjoy this informal and fun evening of singing in a relaxed atmosphere including a cuppa & chat!**



Dancers enjoying the Family Dance on October 15, Laharum Hall

## Yoga at Laharum Hall



10 years of yoga at Laharum Hall!

Yoga will resume on **Wednesday February 8, 2012** at 7.30pm. Come along and discover the benefits! Please contact me on 5383 6265 if you are interested in attending for the first time.

**Judy Berendsen**

## Horsham South Garden Club



Our first meeting for 2012 will be held on **Thursday February 23, 12 noon** at CWA Hall. This will be our Annual General Meeting.  
**Lola Ervin**

### GRAMPIANS TEXTURE

**February 25-March 1, 2012**  
**Centenary Hall Halls Gap**

Two and four day workshops for textile artists with Australian and International tutors. Workshops cover felting, fibre dyeing, contemporary baskets, jewellery, printing, paper, stitching by hand and machine, knitting, fabric and fibre.

Each workshop is accompanied by a special exhibition  
For more information go to website

[www.grampianstexture.com.au](http://www.grampianstexture.com.au)  
or phone 0428.825971

## Laharum Junior Tennis



The juniors have already played a great half season, wearing their 'new look' tennis tops! Not only do they look good, but they're great players with all boys teams aged 12, 14 & 17 on top of their ladders. Some of the juniors that play Saturday morning tennis also play in the senior teams in the afternoon. They are Bill & Jack Shields, Jack French, Matt Velthuis, Ambrose & Reuben Launder - this keeps them off the streets and their parents!

Draws and other information can be accessed via the Central Wimmera Tennis Association website - [cwta.org.au/](http://cwta.org.au/)

We still have regional tennis tournaments coming up at Edenhope, Stawell, Nhill and Horsham Lawn. Reuben Launder (12U boys) did well at the recent Warracknabeal tournament losing the final in a tiebreaker to Matt Lloyd of Horsham.

There will be a coaching clinic at Central Park on December 15/16 - \$20 per session. More information is available at [www.elitetennis.com.au](http://www.elitetennis.com.au).

Thanks to all the parents for running kids around and coordinating the best you can. Some parents have 2-3 kids in different teams at different locations to play at the same time, travelling from places like Wartook, Brimpaen and Glenisla.

As CWTA Junior rep for Laharum, please call me on 5384 4261 for any enquiries.

**Janine Launder**

## Neighbourhood Watch Rural



Neighbourhood Watch Rural members met last month over a meal. We received no reports of theft in the area, but we encourage people to make contact with local committee members if suspicious activity is seen, as well as reporting to police if necessary. We will meet again next year.

Maurice Dumesny is Coordinator/Treasurer and can be contacted on 5383 8242 and Bill Gardner, Communication Secretary on 5383 8288.

**Judy Gardner**, Secretary

## Wonwondah Landcare



Our group is still planning to fill in the section of the Wonwondah channel from Chandler's to Pymers on the highway. This section is too small for the Authority to do under its guidelines, but the area has been a constant breeding ground for white snails and the work is expected to be completed after harvest.

Ian Wentworth is our guest at the next meeting on options for marketing and handling grain this harvest.

An application has been made with Laharum Landcare Group for funding to provide a Landcare Coordinator for all the groups south of Horsham.

**Chris Guest**

## Laharum Rural CFA



Harvesting has commenced in our area and it has certainly dried off in the last fortnight. There has already been a Total Fire Ban day for the season. Fire restrictions for our area have now commenced.

We responded to a crop fire on November 18 which started with a smouldering log. The log had been lit 2-3 months earlier and was thought to be out. It burnt about 1 ha. It proves you cannot be too careful, so if you have done some late burning it might pay to check!

The Laharum and Wartook Community Emergency Readiness evening was extremely well attended. Laharum CFA catered for the supper and our ladies did a terrific job. We earned over \$1,000 for the night - thank you to those involved.

Radio call signs for Laharum Tankers have been changed. Laharum Tanker is now Laharum Tanker 1 and Laharum Tanker A is now Laharum Tanker 2. Some pagers have not been working since November 28. Daily weather reports have been put out, so if your pager has not received them, please get it checked out at District 17 Office, 19 McLachlan Street.

Have your private fire equipment in good condition and your fire plans in place! Happy Christmas and have a safe New Year.

**Mark Francisco**, Captain

*The editor reserves the right to reduce the size of articles so the Newsletter fits 12 pages. Opinions expressed in any articles are not necessarily those of the editor. For further information or discussion please contact the author of the article.*

## Brimpaen Ladies Social Club



Ethel Lowerson who was a member of both Brimpaen Ladies' Social Club and Brimpaen Ladies' Craft Group has moved from Wartook. Ethel, who has been highly regarded for her delicious fruit cakes, is now at the Living Well Village at Kangaroo Flat. If you are planning a trip to Bendigo, Ethel would be happy for you to pop in and say hello.

**Bonnie Gelman**

## The Wander Inn



Our trading hours are Tuesday & Wednesday from 10am-5pm and Thursday to Sunday from 10am-8.30pm for meals – closed Mondays except public holidays. Fresh fish comes in on Fridays to 'eat in' or take-way. Our new Provedore is available with our own homemade goodies, essential oils, kitchen wares and much more.

We will be closed on Christmas Day only – open Boxing Day and New Years Day.

Watch out for our first wood-fire pizza night - advertised at The Wander Inn window.

**Jenny Wilson**

## Laharum Hall Committee



An entertaining night with the Ararat players doing 'Under the Big Top' was held recently. All proceeds will go toward the kitchen

improvements. Thank you to Judy, Helen and Liz for the catering and the committee who assisted on the night.

Thank you to Viterra for their Community Grant to purchase stackable chairs for the hall.

Wishing you all a happy festive season.

**Judy Berendsen**

## Horsham South VFF

We are hoping to organise another Young Farmers financial workshop sometime in February next year. We would also like to run a Family Succession Planning session in this community. These are run by Centrelink in association with Rural Counselling Services.

Please contact me for any enquiries on 5384 6217. Wishing you a happy Christmas!

**Neville McIntyre**, Secretary



The Committee of 2010 Classics in Wartook Valley is calling for Expressions of Interest from any community member wanting to

participate in organising Classics in Wartook Valley Festival in 2012. Please contact me on 5383 6242.

**Jenny Hill**

## BATTERY COLLECTION

Please drop off any dead lead-acid car and tractor batteries to Pam & Des Geue's place, 1922 Northern Grampians Road on pallets just inside their gate. All proceeds go to Laharum Hall.

## Barb's Clearing Sale

Downsizing 50 years of collecting china, glassware, furniture and tools, etc.

"Ask, we may have it!"

Phone Tony and Barbara on 5383 6253



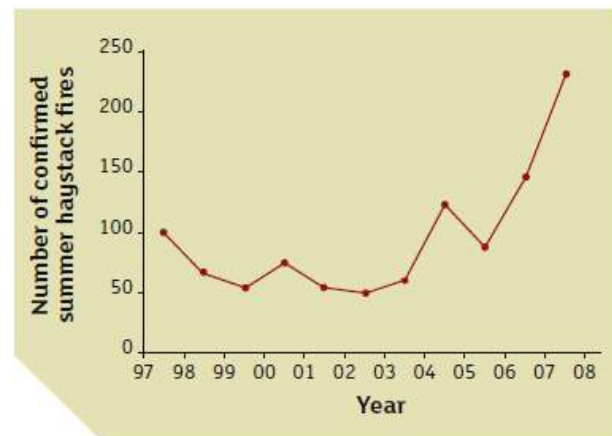
## PREVENTING HAYSTACK FIRES

### Key things to remember

- Ensure hay is fully cured before baling.
- Bale and store each bale type at the correct moisture level.
- Know the history of hay that you purchase, particularly its moisture content.
- Protect hay from rain, leaking roofs and spouts, and runoff.
- Store hay in a number of different locations around your farm, away from key assets. Limit the size of stacks to reduce the risk of losing all of your hay.
- Do not store vehicles, machinery and equipment in your hayshed.
- Be careful when operating vehicles, machinery and equipment near your haystacks.
- Create and maintain fuel breaks around your haystacks.
- Regularly monitor stored hay for signs of heating as it only takes one heating hay bale to ignite a whole haystack.
- Have your local CFA fire brigade in attendance if you have to pull a hot haystack apart.



The number of summer haystack fires in Victoria has increased significantly over recent years as indicated below.



Further information: contact Dept Primary Industries - [dpi.vic.gov.au](http://dpi.vic.gov.au); Australian Fodder Industry Association - [afia.org.au](http://afia.org.au); CFA [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au).

Check the photo on Page 11.

**Louise McGillivray**

## Telstra Priority Assistance

For people with life-threatening medical conditions, Telstra will provide an 'immediate response' to telephone connection if your landline breaks down - phone **132 200**.

## Community Emergency Readiness evening

Over 90 people attended the Community Emergency Readiness evening at Laharum Hall on Tuesday November 15. Representatives from many agencies spoke and answered questions to help people prepare for emergency situations. Agencies included Police, Ambulance, CFA, SES, WCMA, Red Cross, Wimmera Uniting Care and DSE. The evening was organised and coordinated by Vanessa O'Loughlin of HRCC.

Topics covered included emergency management roles, traffic management points, evacuation, Nurse on Call service, staying healthy in the heat, listening to local radio for warnings, checking websites, filling sandbags, making a plan, emergency kits, know your neighbours, counselling including finances, helping others, being prepared, and where to get help.

Materials were available from most representatives including an 'Emergency Toolkit' brochure from SES, a 'Prepare, Act, Survive' booklet from CFA, and an Emergency Kit from Red Cross.

**Gil Hopkins**

## Laharum Parent Club



*Cookbook, Disco, Chooks, Compost and Vegies!!!* Parent Club has been busy with a variety of activities. The main event has arrived - the magnificent Cookbook! Sales are

available at the school and also school concert for convenience of receipt and payment. The cost is \$25 for a high quality book.

One of the activities was the social event of the year for students - the disco. This year's theme was 'Under the Sea' and a variety of costumes arrived with great excitement for the kids to share - Octopus, Zombie fishermen and mermaids attended. Parents and students enjoyed a meal beforehand.

After the catering for the horse riding event, we obtained some horse poo which has been 'cooking' to create some lovely compost - great for the garden! Vegies are looking good and they will be monitored over the holidays. These will be ready for next year when we will be involved deeper with curriculum and garden. Added to which will be the chooks! A fantastic chook shed has been placed in our garden and will be central to activities once the 'girls' arrive. A big thank you to all parties involved in this event.

We look forward to seeing you at the school concert on **Thursday December 15** and sharing with you some of our produce for the year, especially our organic garlic, maybe lettuces and of course the Cookbook!

Next year will be the rewarding phase of our establishments and produce for gate sales.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays from all at Parent Club.

**Jenny Gaulke**

## SEEKING HOUSE FOR RENT IN 2012

Please ring Miss Ronnie Fawcett  
on 0457 825760 if you can help

## Laharum Cricket Club



The cricket season is going along quite well for all of our teams. Our U/14 team the 'Devils', is an amalgamation of us and Homers, as they too were lacking numbers for a side. The team is playing some great cricket and they have a few good wins under their belt. One really good spin-off of the merger is that our players have met and become friends with a new lot of lads from Horsham. This helps with transition for the boys when they go off to secondary schooling.

Some of our younger boys are getting a good grounding in the basics. Jonty and Connor Cowen, Will Griffiths and Duncan Purcell are all showing a lot of improvement in their batting, bowling and fielding techniques. Even Jim McInnes had a bit of on-field practice in our 20/20 intra-club game! The club is also very appreciative of the enthusiasm and assistance that Ambrose, Reuben and Brodie have given in filling-in for both C Grade and B Grade, acquitting themselves quite well too.

B Grade is still undefeated. Robbie Miller recently recorded his maiden century and Damien and Matt Farr also reached three figures. It was good to see 15 year old Tom Dunn making the most of his opportunities in B Grade and putting on a 70 run opening partnership with Brett Ervin.

Our 2 C Grade teams have had mixed success, however both are starting to hit their straps and are capable of making a charge for the finals positions. The Red side our development team, went close to 'knocking off' the top two sides with great performances from ever reliable Tom Crawford, Chops Cutter, Sanjay Sarup and the newly returned Nathan Griffiths. The exciting match between our two teams was witnessed by a very large and appreciative crowd which saw Red defeat Blue by one run!

Red has also recorded a fantastic win in the 20/20 round where they defeated Dimboola by one wicket in a thrilling encounter. Our bowlers clean-bowled eight of the Dimmy batsmen with Daniel Chaplin starting the rout by blasting out their openers. Darcy Wills then snared four wickets for four - three of them clean-bowled in one over! Veteran Ali Griffiths steered the side to victory with the bat in a nail-biting finish.

The cricketers would like to invite everyone along to the Christmas Break-up held in conjunction with the Tennis Club on **Saturday December 17** for the usual good feed and conviviality. The Griffiths Oval, our historic cricket ground will see cricket action on that day making it all the more reason to come along to join us for the afternoon and/or evening.

**Peter Levey**

## OLD ROSEMONT QUILTS

Old Rosemont Quilts is open for business at 138 McTavishs Road, Laharum. Please phone me on 5383 6229 to make an appointment to purchase fabrics, cottons, ric rac, patterns, aprons, quilts, cushions, potholders and sewing advice.

**Isabelle Martin**



Cook Book \$25

Laharum PS Cook Book now available from  
School Office Monday-Friday from 1pm

or

Contact Parent Club direct -

Deirdre Baum phone 0429 136 319;

Caroline Geue phone 5383 6382

## Brimpaen Tennis Club



Almost halfway through the season and both Brimpaen teams are doing well. A Grade is sitting in a good position on the ladder and looking good for a top two finish to the season.

B Special is in the middle of the ladder and heading up! Hopefully we can get a regular team together and make a charge to the finals.

Merry Christmas and happy new year to everyone.

**Courtney Dunn**

## WCMA Group Support Update



As 2011 comes to a close, it is fair to say that the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority (WCMA) has been through a significant year of change. We now have in place a new CEO, David Brennan, new chair, Karen Douglas and a new Board with several new faces.

More recently WCMA has asked for expressions of interest from community members who would like to participate in our Advisory Committees over the next 3 years. These Committees are based on our major assets; Soil, Wetlands, Waterways, Native Vegetation and Threatened Species.

The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Landcare heralded a number of major events including the Landcare Conference in Melbourne where many of our local Landcarers have been recognised for their amazing efforts over many years.

The Regional Catchment Strategy is also progressing with the community consultation process virtually finished now and the draft being readied for comment in the first part of 2012.

2012 looks like it will be a busy year for Wimmera CMA with a number of events and activities on the drawing board already. In the mean time we hope that everyone has a great Christmas and New Year with friends and family.

**La Vergne Lehmann**, Community Engagement Officer



## MT ZERO TRIAL

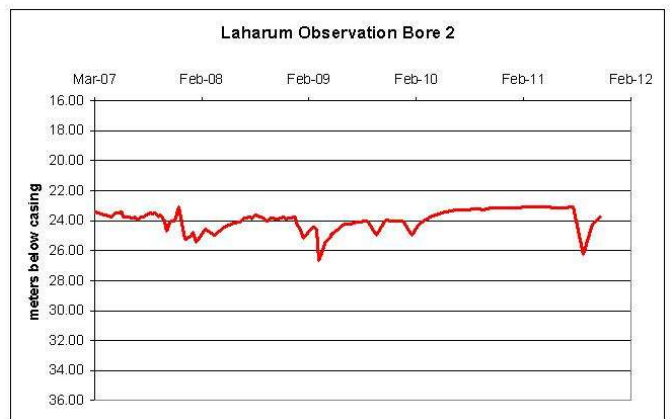
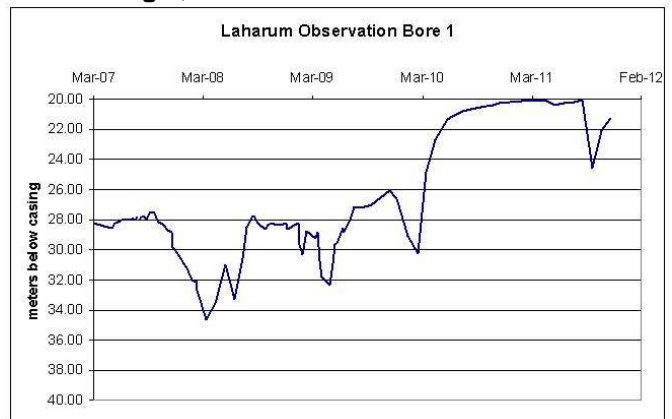
GWMWater has continued to monitor groundwater levels in the Mt Zero area. As shown in the graphs, levels in both observation bores dropped during a three week pumping trial in September. Observation Bores 1 and 2 show approximately five and three metres of drawdown respectively, with both yet to recover fully to their pre-pumping level. This is representative across the bore field.

A final report on the Groundwater Resource Appraisal (GRA) project in the Grampians area will be available before Christmas. Fact sheets will be available explaining findings from the project.

We will also be holding an information session at Laharum in February 2012 to present the results of the pumping test.

If you would like more information on the GRA project or the bore field please contact our Hydrogeologist, Kate Morrison during business hours on 1300 659 961.

**Colleen Eagle**, Communications Officer



## Veggie Swap

Come along and share your produce! Bring along any vegies, fruit, herbs, seedlings, seeds, jams, pickles, eggs, plants, etc



*Simply bring something to swap*

This is a non commercial event – no money changes hands!

Where: Shields big green shed

1982 Northern Grampians Road, Laharum

When: 1st Sunday each month from 10-11am

Enquiries contact Jo Shields on 5383 6302 or 0419.879447  
or Jo Gardner on 5383 6205

Anything left over will be donated to Laharum Primary School, Laharum Kinder or the Salvos

## Laharum Primary School 2805



Term 4 has been a very long term which officially finishes for both staff and students on Thursday December 22!

Over the September school holidays we had some refurbishment work completed around the school including ceiling panels, architraves and downpipes. Our swimming program and Community Learning Day Program also recommenced with our first Term 4 visit to Wartook Gardens. All students had a fantastic day on October 12 and thank you to Royce & Jeanne for allowing us to visit. We are hoping to use some of the student photos to make prints for the school.

Congratulations Parent Club and students!

What an absolute gold star effort for the Long Lunch which was held on Friday October 28. Despite some tricky weather conditions, the event was another wonderful success. Thank you to the many kind donations and local produce supplied.

We have certainly entered the 'silly season' in terms of end of year events and activities. Just a quick outline of some of the happenings since our last newsletter:

Wimmera Principals School Tour - this was a very valuable professional learning experience for me. We visited two schools in Bacchus Marsh and 3 schools in Ballarat over the two days. I saw many outstanding ideas, particularly in regard to the use of ICT in schools. I look forward to implementing a few next year for our students. I also saw the best school vegetable garden at Bacchus Marsh PS that I have ever seen!!

Final Community Learning Day/Swimming November 2 - students had a wonderful time at the Horsham Race Track where they saw many of the activities/buildings as seen on the Melbourne Cup Day coverage. Students then participated in the *Laharum Cup*, with races down the straight astride their fine steeds that they made. All students are to be congratulated for their wonderful participation over the 10 swimming days. A huge thank you to Adrian for his commitment to the program and also to Michael for filling in. We couldn't have done it without you boys!

Group Day at Natimuk - students participated in a great day at Natimuk PS on November 3 where they were given the opportunity to socialise and learn with students from other schools. Well done to the Year 5-6's for their participation in the Kanga 8 cricket teams try outs and then competing at the Kanga 8's competition representing our Horsham Rural School team on November 16.

Ultranet Training - I attended an Ultranet training day at Ararat on November 3. This was a showcase of great ideas from schools around the Ararat area.

Venus de Milo – wow! She looks great! Due to some fantastic multi-aged work creating PowerPoint slides, our presentation flipbook was completed and then sent in for judging. We also included in our submission a digital film presentation and examples of student's work relating to Venus. On November 22 we attended the official presentation in Horsham. Well done Mrs Eagle for coordinating this exciting project for our school. Venus De Milo is now happily grazing in our front yard at Laharum Primary School!

Try-a-Trade - after the great success of the last one, our Year 3-6 students attended this event on Friday November 11. This was a great chance for students to see and experience the various trades that are available to them in the future.

Kinder-Prep Transition Program - each Wednesday we make welcome our four new 'Preps' to school. We look forward to Mia, Arwyn, Katie and James joining us for their sessions until December 13 – Transition Day.

Dads Day at School – our inaugural Dads' Day for the P-2 Students was held on Friday November 11. Wow! I don't know who had more fun – the kids or the Dads. We do hope to make this an annual event at the school. See photo on Page 11.

Have you seen the new chicken coop? What a piece of master engineering! Thanks so much to Lee and Gus for all their work on this project - it truly looks fantastic. We are working on the arrival of the 'girls' before end of term. Thank you also to Brad for his contribution to the watering system for the 'girls'.

Congratulations to everyone involved in the Cook Book – it has arrived! This has certainly taken many hours of work from a very dedicated team. I have been lucky enough to see the finished product – it looks FANTASTIC! This is such a wonderful opportunity to raise dollars for our school. I know that we won't have to think too hard about Christmas presents this year! Well done again to our Parent Club - this is truly a significant fundraising event. The Laharum PS Cook Book is available to purchase from our school office daily from 1pm Monday – Friday (a copy is on display in the front foyer) or you can contact Deirdre Baum on 0429 136 319 or Caroline Geue on 5383 6382 direct.

This year's concert will be held on **Thursday December 15** commencing with tea at Laharum PS. Tea will be available from 5.30-6pm at school. The concert will begin on our lawn area immediately after tea. Our Laharum PS Cook Book will be available to purchase on concert night - \$25 per book. We look forward to seeing you there!

Thank you for all your wonderful support during 2011 and we wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

**Robyn Jones**, Principal

## Welcome Pack for new residents

The Laharum-Wartook Welcome Pack currently being organised for new residents to the district will include a comprehensive list of local businesses and community groups.

If you are in business or if you are involved in a community group and would like to be included in the list, please forward your contact information to me at [giliz@laharum.vic.au](mailto:giliz@laharum.vic.au) or ring on 5383 8207. Details such as: name of business/group, address, phone no, email address and a short description of your business/group can then be included. Thanks!

**Liz Hopkins**

### REMINDER 📌

Laharum Hall subscriptions due - \$10 per adult  
Please forward to Judy Berendsen  
PO Box 621, Horsham 3402



Department of  
Sustainability  
and Environment

## DSE Wimmera District Update

DSE and ParksVic (PV) have been very busy in the lead up to the fire season, undertaking multiple township planned burns in spring, slashing in townships and forest blocks as well as track clearing and access works across the Wimmera.

We have attended several small fires (<1ha) as a result of lightning strikes over the last couple of weeks - one in the Grampians National Park situated 9.5km NNW Halls Gap and located 100m off the Mt Difficult Road and was contained at 0.2ha. Other lightning strike fires have been along the Wimmera River at Antwerp and in the Little Desert Central Block.

Twenty new Project Fire Fighters (PFF) have undertaken their required two weeks training, bringing the total number of PFFs employed across the Wimmera to 43. Training includes OHS, Construction Induction, Defensive Driving, First Aid, a week long General Fire fighter course and 4WD Training.

The 22nd Annual Grampians Fire Conference was held on November 17 and was very well attended by DSE, PV, CFA, Victoria Police, local Government, community members and other key stakeholders. This year the tour focussed on the Victoria Range looking at various fire management issues including the work being done to manage and protect indigenous cultural heritage sites in this unique and diverse landscape. A fire equipment demonstration looking at the new technology DSE is developing was a real highlight, as was the smoke taint presentation. This discussion highlighted the work that DPI Rutherglen is currently undertaking to learn more about smoke uptake and accumulation in grapes.

**Lauren Todman**

## Wartook Christian Home Meeting



Our group meets every Friday evening from 7pm – venues vary. Any resident of Laharum, Wartook or Brimpaen is welcome to join our meetings. Good supportive fellowship is assured. Please ring Garry on 5383 6368 or Peter on 5383 6334 for more information.

**Garry Newman**

## Daniel Berendsen Auto Electrical

ABN 77698617692

Auto Electrical Repairs  
and Wiring  
Light fitting, Radio Installation  
Phone Daniel on 5383 6265



**Horsham Rural City  
Council** urban rural balance

Council's fire prevention and firebreak work is nearing completion and expected to be completed this week. We are aware that there is a lot of regrowth and the mowing program will continue to address this regrowth as required.

We are going to do another section of Wonwondah/Dadswells Bridge Road starting late February early March 2012.

With the reopening of Mt Victory Road, Council and VicRoads are working on the re-signage of the Tourist Road signs with some having been erected.

Winfield Road is a boundary road for most of its length with Northern Grampians Road. Council officers from Northern Grampians Shire and Horsham City Council are in discussion about future rearrangements for maintenance and other works on Winfield Road.

Cameron Oval is the 'Place of Last Resort' if a fire occurs. Further details can be obtained from Council offices by ringing 5382 9777.

Wishing everyone the compliments of the season.

**David Eltringham**, General Manager Technical Services

## Mobile phone coverage in Brimpaen/ Laharum/Wartook areas

The following email was received from Bill Mundy last month by Maureen Campbell who had contacted him regarding the situation with mobile phone coverage as a follow up from the public meeting held in April this year.

*"My sincerest apologies for not having returned your call, it has been lost in the many calls I have to return and for that I must apologise.*

*Unfortunately I can't provide any further concrete updates to the community with respect to potential improvements in coverage, other than the fact that we have recently commissioned the new base station in Haven, which is providing coverage to the south of Horsham, but of course it doesn't extend to Wartook or Laharum. You're not forgotten, our planning takes many years and lots of money!"*

*Kindest regards*

*Bill Mundy, Area General Manager, south west Victoria*

## LAHARUM COMMUNITY LINKS OFFICE - LAHARUM HALL

The following services are available at Laharum Hall - Computer use; Internet access; Emailing; Printing; Photocopying; Faxing; Laminating.



Please contact Deb MacInnes on 5383 8203  
Mobile 0428.838203 or Loretta Emerson 5383 6233 if you wish to use these services or equipment

*This newsletter can be viewed at  
[www.laharum.vic.au](http://www.laharum.vic.au) and [www.wartook.vic.au](http://www.wartook.vic.au).*

*Printed on 100% recycled paper*

## Laharum Kindergarten



We have had a great year with the continuation of the pilot program and the success of a team working together.

Our enrolments have been steady with a total of 17 children enrolled. We have had averages between 11 and 12 children enrolled in the 3/4 year old program and 5 to 6 children in Occasional Care. The 3 days of 5 hours, although tiring for some, have been beneficial and Occasional Care has also been valuable for those families accessing it.

The year has been really busy since the beginning with our regular topics and some new material being added. We explored the seasons, different environments, health and well being, community services, space, transport, animals and nature. We are always incorporating learning and cognitive concepts of colour, shape, number, name, fine motor skills measurement, size, weight and volume.

The additions of kindergarten programs help enhance the topics and concepts. They are Smiles for Miles, Pet Responsibility, Farm Safety, and Road Safety. Each of these programs has resources to support the learning and is a valuable part of the kindergarten curriculum. Other enhancements to the program are: Fathers night, pet's day, PJ day, school transition programs and cooking. They support the current topic of what we are doing and are great fun! We really value the input of our dads, as they are also important in the kindergarten program. I often call on the dad's skills or muscles to help with a task, and I'll never say no to a dad doing fruit!

The school transition program is also vital for the children who will be attending school the following year. It is an excellent benefit being within the school grounds, as not only do the kinder children have a continual transition, but we are able to partake in school activities which are beneficial for families who have children in both kinder and school. The school offers amazing ongoing support to all staff and families, and the sharing of resources is invaluable. Thank you to Robyn and school staff for their ongoing support to the kinder. We also incorporate external resources that are locally based, for example the visits from the local Fire Brigade and Police.

My thanks also go to the support teams in specialist services which are vital for supporting children with Additional Needs and are also a great point of referral for me and families to support children having difficulties in any area.

Thank you to the following staff - Tori Power for all her input during the year giving me fresh ideas as well as supporting my current program; Katie Waterfield for her work with Occasional Care and Tracie Day for her integral part to the pilot program. Thank you also to the committee for all their support and efforts this year - kindergartens cannot survive without strong committees. Thank you to those who have helped around the kinder premises.

We now look forward to an exciting, busy and prosperous 2012. May we all continue to strive to do this together!

**Jo Bone**, Director

## Gardening Services available

General mowing, fire prevention work, slashing & rotary hoeing, pruning, rubbish removal, chainsaw and brush-cutting work



Contact Bruce Winfield on 5383 6201

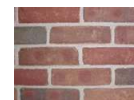
## FOR HIRE

Trestles and chairs are available for hire at reasonable rates from Laharum Hall

Contact Judy on 5383 6265

## Johno's Bricklaying

Bricklaying, rendering, concreting, tiling, paving, small building jobs, bobcat - post holes, small tip truck



Phone Johno on 0419.116 711 or  
AH 5383 6285

## VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE INFORMATION LINE 1800 240 667

Total Fire Bans – Fire Restrictions  
Bushfire Planning – Major Fires



## CFA Firestar Rose Official Rose of CFA

Firestar Rose was created as a consequence of the events of Black Saturday 2009. The rose honours the lives lost, the many dedicated CFA members who were involved and celebrates the regeneration of new life - bred in remembrance

Type: Floribunda

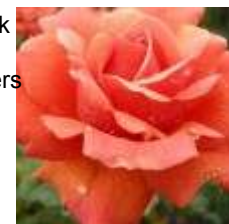
Colour: Orange, becoming raspberry-pink

Scent: Light

Flower: Double, about 30 petals in clusters

*Won national & international recognition*

When purchasing online at [www.firestarrose.com.au](http://www.firestarrose.com.au) your local CFA brigade receives about \$11 per rose.  
Order any time - bare rooted roses



## North West Grampians Newsletter

### Community Calendar of Events 2011/12

#### December

Friday	9	6.30pm →	Brimpaen Christmas Tree – Brimpaen Hall
Saturday	10	6pm →	Wonwondah Christmas Tree – Wonwondah Hall
Wednesday	14	6pm →	Laharum Landcare – Laharum Hall
Thursday	15	5.30pm →	Laharum Primary School Christmas Concert
Saturday	17	6pm →	Laharum Tennis & Cricket Christmas windup – Cameron Oval
Wednesday	21	9.30-11am	Mobile Library – front of Laharum Primary School

#### January

Thursday	26	8am →	Australia Day Breakfast – Brimpaen Hall
----------	----	-------	---

#### February

Tuesday	7	10am-2.30pm	Brimpaen Craft Group – Brimpaen Hall
Thursday	16	7.30pm	'Local Vocals' – Laharum Hall
Thursday	23	12 noon	Horsham South Garden Club – CWA Hall

**Yoga** - Wednesdays from 7.30pm commencing Wednesday February 8, 2012 – Laharum Hall

**Wartook Christian Home Meeting** – Fridays from 7pm - venues vary

**Grampians Texture** – February 25–March 1, 2012, Halls Gap

**Wartook Artist Studio** – Closing Sunday December 18, 5pm; Reopening Monday December 26, 11am

**The Wander Inn** – Closed Christmas Day only

\*\*\*\*\*



### LAHARUM FIRE BRIGADE TRUCK ROSTER December 2011 - February 2012 IN CASE OF FIRE DIAL 000

*The trucks need to be driven 30km a week*



WEEK START	LAHARUM TANKER		TANKER A	
	DRIVER	CREW	DRIVER	CREW
04/12/11	Leigh Mibus	Chris Vincent	Gary Staehr	Gil Hopkins
11/12/11	Alan Arnott	Norm Booth	Trevor Winfield	Ray Zippel
18/12/11	Will Pyke	Francoise van der Plank	Mark Francisco	Campbell Trewin
25/12/11	Jim Carter	Rob McInnes	Maurie Dumesny	Neil Seymour
01/01/12	Andrew Bos	Steve Suter	Brendan Dunn	Peter Dunn
08/01/12	Don Sudholz	Bruce McInnes	Cam Ellifson	Alex Ellifson
15/01/12	John Fisher	Roger MacInnes	Mal Griffiths	Tim Martin
22/01/12	Ed Johnson	Judy Johnson	Bill Gardner	Judy Gardner
29/01/12	Bruce Winfield	Paul Young	Luke Dumesny	Jenny Dumesny
05/02/12	Leigh Mibus	Colin Flack	Gil Hopkins	Graeme Wood
12/02/12	Brad Geue	Adam Shields	Gary Staehr	Robert Staehr
19/02/12	Hugh Russell	Howard Black	Rob Launder	Andy Crawford
26/02/12	Alison White	Vikki Stevens	Robert Jess	John McIntyre
04/03/12	Alan Arnott	Norm Booth	Trevor Winfield	Ray Zippel
11/03/12	Chris Vincent	Barry Berendsen	Mark Francisco	Damien Knight
18/03/12	Will Pyke	Francoise van der Plank	Maurie Dumesny	Neil Seymour

Anyone with a heavy rigid licence can take trucks for a run - please mark your turn in your calendar! If a date on the roster does not suit, please do a mutual swap with anyone else! If you notice a fault with the truck during the run, please notify Mark Francisco immediately on 5383 8218 and always complete the log book at the end of your run. Thanks.

#### FOR FIRE WARNINGS AND UPDATES

- Tune into your emergency broadcasters: ABC and Commercial radio stations and SKY News TV.

## Laharum Football Netball Clubs



At the Annual General Meeting in October, the official amalgamation of the Football and Netball Clubs was passed and the two clubs have



now become one! This move will ensure the Club stays strong with both clubs now working together. A lot of work has gone into setting up new positions on the Board of Directors to ensure a smooth transition.

Board of Management for season 2012 will be -

- Chairman of Directors: Cameron Mibus
- Director of Administration: Roxanne Smith
- Director of Finance: Deb MacInnes
- Deputy Director of Finance: Maureen Ervin
- Director of Senior Football: Robert Matthews
- Director of Football Operations: Brian Burke
- Director of Match Day Administration - Football:
- Director of Public Relations/Grants - Keith Haeusler
- Director of Senior Netball: Michelle Mibus
- Director of Netball Operations: Rachel McGennicken
- Director Match Day Administration – Netball:
- Director of sponsorship: To be decided
- Director of Social Events and Bar: Brooke MacInnes
- Director of Works: Gerard Matthews
- Director of Junior Football: Gary Mason
- Director of Junior Netball: Jenny Carter

It has been a very busy off season with the Club reappointing Marcus Demaria as Senior Coach (see photo opposite) and the club gaining the services of some talented recruits. We welcome back to the club Hamish Roberts as joint assistant coach after a year in Geelong. Also joining us as Joint Assistant Coach is Horsham United's former Coach, Shannon Argall. Shannon has been a dominant player in the Wimmera League and brings with him fresh ideas and a wealth of knowledge.

Other new players are Jason Przibilla, Mark Muszkieta, Maddy Rethus, Demetrios Vettos, Adam Rakip and Caile Ditterich. The Club is also in negotiations with several other players who we hope to get on board in the future.

A Meet and Greet Day was held last Sunday to welcome our players, old and new, Coaches, Board Members and supporters for the 2012 Football and Netball Season. A great day was had by all and the enthusiasm for the 2012 season was great to see.

Pre-season training has commenced at Horsham College, Dimboola Road Oval and will continue on Monday and Wednesdays at Horsham College and Friday nights out at Brian Burke's gym. A training camp is to be scheduled for late February.

A Sheep Drive has been held over the past few weeks and a big thank you to all those who have donated. If anyone has not yet donated but would like to do so, please ring Nadine on 5383 6214.

Sponsorship is very important for the Club to operate and to be competitive. If any local business would like to contribute by having an advertising sign on the fence, also please ring Nadine.

Wishing everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and happy New Year. Go Demons!

**Deb MacInnes**



*Laharum Senior football team for 2011*



*Marcus Demaria, Senior Coach Laharum Football team*



*Dad's Day at Laharum Primary School*



Hay stack fire

## Some happy snaps!



Band at Family Dance October 15



Laharum Primary School Long Lunch on October 28



"Shall we dance?"



"Still waiting for *my* Long Lunch!"



Someone has to do the cleaning up!!

## Aussie Flower People

1943 Northern Grampians Road  
Laharum

We are having a sale on 6" pots –  
3 for \$10 while stocks last.  
Garden Ornaments and pottery 20% off.

Open Saturday mornings.  
Ring on 5383 6201 for other times.

Merry Christmas to everyone and a happy and safe new year.

